

In the specification:

On page 1, please change the title as follows:

~~SILVER ALLOY EXCELLING IN PERFORMANCE OF REFLECTANCE
MAINTENANCE~~

SILVER ALLOY EXCELLENT IN REFLECTANCE MAINTENANCE PROPERTY

On page 5, please change the first full paragraph as follows:

In order to solve the above described problems, the present inventors selected appropriate dopant elements with silver as the main component similarly to the conventional art. Consequently, the present inventors have come up with the present invention by discovering that the addition of a ~~rare-earth~~ precious metal element, as ~~an~~ a dopant element, higher than silver in melting point is effective in maintaining the reflectance and is useful for improving the heat resistance, the moisture resistance or the resistance to sulfidation.

On page 7, after the second full paragraph, please add:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a graph showing the results (jitter values) of an accelerated environment test carried out on DVD-R media each provided with one of the reflective films according to present Embodiment;

Fig. 2 is a graph showing the results (P18 error values) of the accelerated

environment test carried out on the DVD-R media each provided with one of the reflective films according to present Embodiment; and

Fig. 3 is a graph showing the results (P0 error values) of the accelerated environment test carried out on the DVD-R media each provided with one of the reflective films according to present Embodiment.

On page 17, first full paragraph, please delete:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

~~Fig. 1 is a graph showing the results (jitter values) of an accelerated environment test carried out on DVD-R media each provided with one of the reflective films according to present Embodiment;~~

~~Fig. 2 is a graph showing the results (P18 error values) of the accelerated environment test carried out on the DVD-R media each provided with one of the reflective films according to present Embodiment; and~~

~~Fig. 3 is a graph showing the results (P0 error values) of the accelerated environment test carried out on the DVD-R media each provided with one of the reflective films according to present Embodiment.~~

In the claims:

1. (ORIGINAL) A silver alloy for use in a reflective film, comprising silver as a main element and at least one precious metal element as a first dopant element.
2. (ORIGINAL) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1, wherein the first dopant element is at least any one of platinum, palladium, gold, rhodium, ruthenium and iridium.
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, comprising as a second dopant element at least one element selected from gallium, dysprosium and thulium.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, comprising as ~~the~~ a second dopant element at least one element selected from magnesium, zinc, nickel, molybdenum, terbium, gadolinium and erbium.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, comprising as ~~the~~ a second dopant element at least one element selected from aluminum, neodymium and holmium.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, comprising as ~~the~~ a second dopant element at least one element selected from copper, cobalt, tin, titanium, bismuth, scandium, yttrium, praseodymium and manganese.
7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, comprising as ~~the~~ a second dopant element at least one element selected from germanium, indium, samarium, ytterbium, strontium, boron, silicon, chromium,

iron, zirconium, niobium, tantalum, tungsten, rhodium, lead, calcium, antimony, hafnium, lanthanum and cerium.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein a total of the concentration of the first dopant element and the concentration of the second dopant element are 0.01 to 5.0 atomic %.

9. (ORIGINAL) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 8, wherein the total of the concentration of the first dopant element and the concentration of the second dopant element are 0.01 to 2.0 atomic %.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A sputtering target, comprising the silver alloy as defined in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1.

11. (NEW) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 2, comprising as a second dopant element at least one element selected from gallium, dysprosium and thulium.

12. (NEW) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 2, comprising as a second dopant element at least one element selected from magnesium, zinc, nickel, molybdenum, terbium, gadolinium and erbium.

13. (NEW) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 2, comprising as a second dopant element at least one element selected from aluminum, neodymium and holmium.

14. (NEW) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 2, comprising as a second dopant element at least one element selected from copper, cobalt, tin, titanium, bismuth, scandium, yttrium, praseodymium and manganese.

15. (NEW) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 2, comprising as a second dopant element at least one element selected from germanium, indium, samarium, ytterbium, strontium, boron, silicon, chromium, iron, zirconium, niobium, tantalum, tungsten, rhodium, lead, calcium, antimony, hafnium, lanthanum and cerium.

16. (NEW) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 2, wherein a total of the concentration of the first dopant element and the concentration of the second dopant element are 0.01 to 5.0 atomic %.

17. (NEW) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 3, wherein a total of the concentration of the first dopant element and the concentration of the second dopant element are 0.01 to 5.0 atomic %.

18. (NEW) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 4, wherein a total of the concentration of the first dopant element and the concentration of the second dopant element are 0.01 to 5.0 atomic %.

19. (NEW) An optical recording medium comprising a substrate and a silver alloy on the substrate which silver alloy comprises silver and at least one of platinum, palladium, gold, rhodium, ruthenium and iridium as a first dopant element, and as a optional second dopant element at least of gallium, dysprosium, thulium, magnesium, zinc, nickel, molybdenum, terbium, gadolinium, erbium, aluminum, neodymium, holmium, copper, cobalt, tin, titanium, bismuth, scandium, yttrium, praseodymium, manganese, germanium, indium, samarium, ytterbium, strontium, boron, silicon, chromium, iron, zirconium, niobium, tantalum, tungsten, rhodium, lead, calcium, antimony, hafnium, lanthanum and cerium.

20. (NEW) A method for producing an optical recording medium which comprises forming a film of a silver alloy on a substrate, which silver alloy comprises a first dopant element selected from at least one of platinum, palladium, gold, rhodium, ruthenium and iridium; and which silver alloy optionally further comprises a second dopant element selected from at least one of gallium, dysprosium, thulium, magnesium, zinc, nickel, molybdenum, terbium, gadolinium, erbium, aluminum, neodymium, holmium, copper, cobalt, tin, titanium, bismuth, scandium, yttrium, praseodymium, manganese, germanium, indium, samarium, ytterbium, strontium, boron, silicon, chromium, iron, zirconium, niobium, tantalum, tungsten, rhodium, lead, calcium, antimony, hafnium, lanthanum and cerium.